

The Tragedy of Hamlet

The Sunne no sooner shall the mountaines touch,  
But wee will shuppe him hence, and this vile deede  
Wee must with all our Maiesly and skill     Enter Ros. & Guyld.  
Both countenance and excuse. Ho Guyldensterne,  
Friends both, goe ioyne you with some further ayde,  
Hamlet in madnes hath Polonius slaine,  
And from his mothers closser hath hee drag'd him,  
Goe seeke him out speake sayre and bring the body  
Into the Chappell; I pray you haft in this,  
Come Gertrard, wee le call vp our wisest friends,  
And let them know both what wee meane to do  
And whats vntimely done,  
Whose whisper ore the worlds Diameter  
As leuell as the Cannon to his blanck,  
Transports his poysned shot, may misse our name,  
And hit the woundlesse ayre, O come away,  
My soule is full of discord and dismay.     Exeunt.

Enter Hamlet, Rosencrans and others.

Ham. Safely stowd, but softly, what noyse, who calls on Hamlet?  
O heere they come.

Ros. What haue you done my Lord with the dead body?

Ham. Compounded it with dust whereto it is kin.

Ros. Tell vs where tis that wee may take it thence,  
And beare it to the Chappell.

Ham. Do not beleeue it.

Ros. Beleeue what?

Ham. That I can keepe your counsaile and not mine owne, besides  
to be demaunded of a spunge, what replication should be made by  
the sonne of a King.

Ros. Take you me for a spunge my Lord?

Ham. Ifir, that sookes vp the Kings countenance, his rewards, his  
authorities, but such Officers do the King best seruice in the end, he  
keepes them like an apple in the corner of his iaw, first mouth'd to be  
last swallowed, when he needs what you haue gleand, it is but squee-  
sing you, and spunge you shall be dry againe.

Ros. I vnderstand you not my Lord.

Ham. I am glad of it, a knauish speech sleepes in a foolish case.

Ros. My Lord, you must tell vs where the body is, and go with vs  
to the King.

Hamlet

Prince of Denmarke.

Ham. The body is with the King, but the King is not with the  
body. The King is a thing.

Guyl. A thing my Lord.

Ham. Of nothing, bring me to him.

Exeunt.

Enter King, and two or three.

King. I haue sent to seeke him, and to find the body,  
How dangerous is it that this man goes loose,  
Yet must not we put the strong Law on him,  
Hee's lou'd of the distracted multitude,  
Who like not in their judgement, but their eyes,  
And where tis so, th' offenders scourge is wayed  
But neuer the offence: to beare all smooth and euene,  
This suddaine sending him away must seeme  
Deliberate pause, diseases desperate growne,  
By desperate applyance are reliu'd  
Or not at all.

Enter Rosencrans and all the rest.

King. How now, what hath befallne?

Ros. Where the dead body is bestowd my Lord

We cannot get from him.

King. But where is he?

Ros. Without my Lord, guarded to know your pleasure.

Kidg. Bring him before vs.

Ros. Hoe, bring in the Lord.

They Enter.

King. Now Hamlet, where's Polonius?

Ham. At supper.

King. At supper where.

Ham. Not where he eates, but where a is eaten, a certaine conua-  
cation of politique wormes are cen at him: your worme is your only  
Emperour for dyet, we fat all creatures else to fat vs, and we fat our  
selues for maggots, your fat King and your leane begger is but varia-  
ble seruice, two dishes but to one table, that's the end.

King. Alasse, alasse.

Ham. A man may fish with the worme that hath eate of a King,  
eate of the fish that hath fedde of that worme.

King. What dost thou meane by this?

Ham. Nothing but to shew you how a King may go a progresse  
through

K 2

